



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

News Release

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City Hangs Ten at Longboard Surfing Contest to Promote Recycling

Lawnmower to be Ruffled to Winning Recycler

SAN DIEGO, CA- The City of San Diego continues to raise public awareness about recycling with the next installment of the Environmental Services Department's "Recycle Night" events. Together, the City and the Old Mission Beach Athletic Club (OMBAC) will host ***Recycle Night at the Longboard Surfing Contest***, when surfing fans can enjoy the sun, surf and help the environment Saturday, September 21, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., north of Crystal Pier in Pacific Beach. ESD staff will host booths where surfing contest attendees can drop off ten or more recyclables for a chance to win a \$400 electric mulching lawnmower.

"*Recycle Nights* encourage people to recycle and to do their part to help the environment," said Richard L. Hays, director of the City of San Diego Environmental Services Department. "By joining forces with the Old Mission Beach Athletic Club, we hope to educate and interest a whole new group of recyclers."

Fans that drop off ten or more empty, recyclable containers including aluminum cans and both glass and plastic narrow-necked beverage containers will be automatically entered in the prize drawing for the electric, grass-cycling lawnmower. Recycling Specialists will work at recycling stations around the pier to count recyclables and give out raffle tickets. Recyclers will receive one raffle ticket for every 10 recyclable containers dropped off. Also, participants can win other prizes by playing the recycling relay.

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Raffle prize winners will be selected at the Environmental Services Ridegheaven Green Building Monday, September 23, 2002. Winners will be notified by phone.

“We are excited to give prizes to those people who make the extra effort to recycle,” said Hays. “Our grand prize is a mulching lawn mower because we want people to be able to continue to do their part to help the environment. By giving one mulching lawn mower away perhaps we can help reduce a portion of the current 70,000 tons of grass clippings and leaves that end up in the landfill every year and also educate the winner about using their own clippings as fertilizer for their lawn.”

The Environmental Services Department has hosted *Recycle Nights* since 1991 to encourage beverage container recycling. This ***Recycle Night at the Longboard Surfing Contest*** is jointly sponsored by the Old Mission Beach Athletic Club, City of San Diego Environmental Services Department and the San Diego Urban Corp. The next “Recycle Night” event is Sunday, October 13, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., when the San Diego Chargers play the Kansas City Chiefs at Qualcomm Stadium. Additional *Recycle Nights* will be added throughout the year with other teams like the Sockers, the Aztecs, the Spirit and the Gulls. Updated event listings can be found on our website. For more information contact ESD at (858) 694-7000.

OMBAC serves amateur sports and youth athletics. Proceeds from the OMBAC Longboard Surfing Contest will be donated to purchase “surf” wheelchairs that allow maneuverability on sand for the disabled. For more information, go to <http://www.ombac.org/>.

The City of San Diego’s Environmental Services Department is charged with providing a broad range of services to protect San Diego’s environmental quality including refuse collection and disposal, recycling and environmentally-sound landfill management to meet the City’s long-term disposal needs. The Department also oversees the City’s management of energy use and explores innovative options for energy independence. For more information on Environmental Services, visit its web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/>.

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